

### REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed 11 FEBRUARY 2004. Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-3, 5, 7-20, 25-33, and 41, characterized by the Examiner as being drawn to a method and apparatus having a polishing head having a retaining ring with an annular recess. The election is made without traverse.

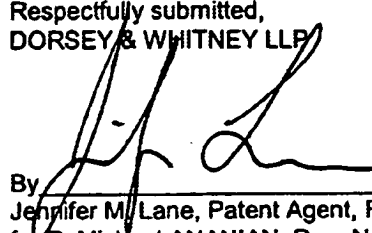
### Claim Status

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-20, and 25-41 are pending after entry of the present amendment. Claims 34-40 are withdrawn herein as being directed to a non-elected invention. A complete listing of all claims that are, or were in the application, along with an appropriate status identifier, is provided above in the section entitled "Amendments to the Claims".

### CONCLUSION

If after review, the Examiner feels there are further unresolved issues, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (415) 781-1989.

Respectfully submitted,  
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